

Morris County Heritage Commission
Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2023

Present: Chair Kathy Murphy, Vice Chair Larry Fast, and Secretary Martha Wells; HC Commissioners Carol Barkin, John Dunado, Tom Ferguson, Marty Kane, Joe Macasek; Director Amanda Hefferan and History Program Development Specialist Nick Palatucci

Absent/Excused: Treasurer Epsey Farrell

Call to Order: Chair Murphy called the meeting to order at the Morris County Library and via WebEx at 9:36. The Open Public Meeting Statement was read by Director Hefferan.

Newly appointed HC Commissioner Tom Ferguson was welcomed. HC Commissioners and staff introduced themselves.

Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to accept the March 2023 meeting minutes as corrected.

Financial Report: The 2023 budget has been approved. Money has been spent on various service agreements. A table was purchased for the archive room.

Chair's Report: Chair Murphy encouraged HC Commissioners to attend the Volunteer Reception hosted by the Morris County Board of County Commissioners at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum on Tuesday, May 9, from 5:30 to 7:30. Director Murphy and HC Commissioner got together to discuss marker submissions concerning Mount Olive. Former Director Peg Shultz will have an article for the fall issue of the newsletter. Chair Murphy was happy to report that she had occasion to visit the HC offices in person.

County Commissioner's Report: None

Director's/Archive Collection Report: Director Hefferan reported that during March the staff focus was on re-grants and research requests. The Staff will be meeting with Grow It Green- Morristown to discuss common interests and events, as well as funding. It is possible that Grow It Green may apply for a re-grant next year. The staff has discussed retiring the 50th anniversary design and returning to the previous logo, or possibly a new logo, on future promotional items. The Charlotteburg Forge, the Phoenix House and two entrance markers are expected to be installed this month. There needs to be a decision about the Peter Cook House marker.

Program Development Report: History Program Development Specialist Palatucci reported that the applications are in for the 2023 re-grant program with

applicants asking for a total of \$62,473. The Heritage Commission has a \$51,000 to distribute as re-grants. A meeting with our three outside reviewers and HC committee members is planned for the last week in April or the first week in May.

Subcommittee Reports:

- **Archives:** None
- **Grants/Re-Grants:** Chair Murphy suggested that we consider increasing the maximum amount that applicants can apply for on next year's re-grant round. A majority of the applicants this year are looking for support through GOS grant. The Heritage Commission is considering to request a larger amount from the New Jersey Historical Commission for re-grants for 2024.
- **Marker Program:** There has been interest from Boonton for a marker and Mount Olive Historical Society plans to request a marker for the Seward House. Maintenance for some older markers needs to be discussed.
- **Personnel:** None
- **Public Programs/Exhibits:** None
- **Publications:** Commissioner Fast reports that the spring newsletter is 80% ready to go. There will soon be a final draft in the Dropbox for everyone to go over.

Communications: Newsletters were received from the Madison Historical Society and the Central Railroad Company of New Jersey.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned without objection at 10:23.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Wells
Secretary